

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

In the present application, Claims 34-47 are active. Claims 1-33 were canceled by a previous amendment. The present amendment amends Claims 34, 37-38, 41-42, and 45 without introducing any new matter.

In the Official Action, Claims 34-35, 37, 42, 44-45, and 47 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being unpatentable over Dolan (U.S. Patent No. 6,628,632). Claims 36, 38-41, 43, and 46 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dolan in view of Bahl (U.S. Patent No. 6,957,276).

Independent Claim 34 is amended to clarify that the first packet communication terminal is able to connect to a network A and a network B by a first base station and a second base station, respectively. These features find non-limiting support in Applicants' disclosure as originally filed, for example in Fig. 1, and paragraph [0065]. Moreover, independent Claim 34 is amended to recite that the step of acquiring a network address A is acquired "from the first base station and a network address B from the second base station, the network address A and the network address B usable for addressing the first packet communication terminal by the second packet communication terminal through the network A and through the network B, respectively." These features find non-limiting support in the disclosure at paragraph [0069], and in Fig. 2, reference 101.

In addition, Claim 34 is amended to recite "notifying the second packet communication terminal by the first packet terminal about the acquired network address A and the network address B through at least one of the first or second base station." These features find non-limiting support in the disclosure at paragraph [0071], and in Fig. 2,

reference 103. No new matter has been added. Claims 37 and 41 are also amended to correct a minor formal issue.

Independent Claims 38, 42, and 45 are amended analogously in the context of a computer readable storage device (Claim 38), and a first packet communication device (Claims 42 and 45). Because these amendments are all supported by the specification as originally filed, they are not raising any questions of new matter.

In response to the rejection of Claim 34 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), in light of the amendments to independent Claim 34, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this rejection and traverse the rejection, as discussed next.

Briefly summarizing, Applicants' independent Claim 34 is directed to a packet communication method for packet communication between a first packet communication terminal and a second packet communication terminal, the first packet communication terminal able to connect to a network A and a network B by a first base station and a second base station, respectively. The method includes *inter alia* the steps of acquiring a network address A from the first base station and a network address B from the second base station, the network address A and the network address B usable for addressing the first packet communication terminal by the second packet communication terminal through the network A and through the network B, respectively, a step of storing the acquired network address A and the network address B in a first storage located in the first packet communication terminal, and a step of notifying the second packet communication terminal by the first packet terminal about the acquired network address A and the network address B through at least one of the first or second base station.

Turning now to the applied references, Dolan is directed to a handoff method that can be used in a wireless communication network, where a primary base station 100 can select another base station, for example the secondary base station 101, as a handoff candidate.

(Dolan, Abstract, Fig. 3). Dolan's method allows that a communication from a wireless terminal 111 can be handed off to another base station. (Dolan, col. 4, ll. 50-67.) Dolan explains that the base station 100 includes a controller 300 and a transceiver 340, and that controller 300 can received address information and signal quality measurements from neighboring base stations. (Dolan, col. 5, ll. 58-65, Fig. 2.) Moreover, Dolan explains that the primary base station 100 can send a request to the secondary base station 101 for soft handoff, and the secondary base station 101 can then send identities of neighboring base stations to the primary base station 100. (Dolan, col. 6, ll. 39-56, Fig. 3, points C and D.)

However, Dolan fails to teach all the features of Applicants' independent Claim 34.

In particular, Dolan fails to teach:

acquiring a network address A from the first base station and a network address B from the second base station, the network address A and the network address B ***usable for addressing the first packet communication terminal by the second packet communication terminal through the network A and through the network B***

(Claim 34, portions omitted emphasis added.) First, in Dolan's method, addresses for the individual base stations are transmitted between base stations 100 and 101, and these addresses operate to signal the base stations themselves. (Dolan, col. 4, ll. 63-67.) No addresses that can be used by a terminal to address another terminal are sent. Second, the terminals in Dolan do not acquire any addresses for other terminals, because the connection from a base station to a terminal is switched over to another base station, and therefore only base station information is exchanged. (Dolan, col. 6, ll. 56-63).

In addition, the cited passages of Dolan also fail to teach a step of notifying the second packet communication terminal by the first packet terminal about the acquired network address A and the network address B through at least one of the first or second base station. As explained above, in Dolan's method, there are no terminals that notify another

terminal about his own addresses for two different networks through a base station, as required by Applicants' independent Claim 34.

Therefore, the cited passages of Dolan fail to teach every feature recited in Applicants' Claim 34, so that Claim 34 is believed to be patentably distinct over Dolan. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully traverse, and request reconsideration of the rejection based on this reference.

Moreover, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of the dependent claims. For example, dependent Claim 35 requires "first instructing the second packet communication terminal to delete the network address A or the network address B from the second storage." Dolan's column 8 at lines 10-22 merely discusses a variant where the signal strength is measured periodically. Dolan is entirely silent on the feature of instruction another terminal to delete a network address. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection, and requests reconsideration thereof.

Independent Claims 38, 42, and 45 recite features that are analogous to the features recited in independent Claim 34, but directed to different statutory classes. Accordingly, for the reasons stated above for the patentability of Claim 34, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of Claims 38, 42, and 45, and the rejections of all associated dependent claims, are also believed to be overcome in view of the arguments regarding independent Claim 34.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal Allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 34-47 is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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